



ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL

News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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February 1, 2016

**Atlanta City Council approves a new intergovernmental agreement with  
Atlanta Public Schools**

**ATLANTA** – The Atlanta City Council gave its approval to a new intergovernmental agreement (IGA) settling a monetary dispute between the city, the Atlanta BeltLine and Atlanta Public Schools.

The measure was sponsored by Councilmembers Kwanza Hall, Andre Dickens and Alex Wan. It was approved Monday by a vote of 13-2.

The dispute centered on the amount of funding owed in a previous agreement to the school system. That agreement required the city — in exchange for using a portion of school taxes to build its parks and trails along the BeltLine — to make \$162 million in a series of fixed payments back to APS. The payments were intended to be made using the taxes collected with the Beltline tax allocation district, or TAD.

The major terms under the new agreement are as follows:

- The latest agreement represents a 42 percent savings over the life of the IGA, as amended, from approximately \$174,936,302.00 to \$100,767,577.00
- APS will receive \$73,500,000.00 in Payments in Lieu of Taxes, known as PILOTs, between 2017 and 2031. This amount represents a 55 percent reduction in PILOTs.
- APS will receive \$14,767,577.00 in past due PILOTs, of which \$9.1 million was paid on December 29, 2015.
- APS will also receive a parcel of land and an additional \$10 million on July 1, 2017.

“Thanks to the Eastside Trail, District 2 residents and businesses have become enthusiastic early adopters of the Atlanta BeltLine’s vision for our city,” said Councilmember Hall. “This agreement allows us to focus on the future and expand opportunities for investment throughout the BeltLine TAD.”

“As a proud product and parent of APS and an Invest Atlanta and BeltLine Board member for the last two years, I have consistently said that our children must be our priority so I am thankful for the deal we have today,” said Councilmember Dickens. “It is the result of good people on all sides persevering through sometimes difficult negotiations and doing what was right for our children and the people of this city.”

Since 2009, the Atlanta BeltLine has leveraged \$400 million in public investment into \$2.4 billion in private investment. Once complete, the BeltLine will connect 45 neighborhoods and 22 schools and learning institutions across the city.

Said Councilmember Wan: “I am very pleased that the Atlanta City Council has approved the negotiated settlement between the City of Atlanta, Atlanta Public Schools, and the Atlanta BeltLine,” he said. “This agreement signals the renewed commitment of all stakeholders to the success of our students, the realization of the BeltLine vision, and the future of the City of Atlanta.”

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